message exchange for trade with special reference to international trade between Customs, Ports, Airports and Directorate of Foreign Trade.

(ix) International messaging standards based on UN/EDIFACT for transacting electronic messages have been adopted within the country.

Adequate care is being taken to see that open standards wherever possible are followed and implemented.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Information Technology, has set up "Centre of Excellence for E-commerce" at CMC Hyderabad to develop and integrate various technologies for E-commerce. These include payment systems like E-cash, Credit Cards and security products such as Firewall and Network, Intruder Detection System. Public Key Infrastructure Technology is also being developed. The center is also examining the use of Technologies like using smart cards and mobile telephones for E-commerce application.

The Centre is interacting with other organisations such as Institute for Development & Research in Banking Technology, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and Electronic Research and Development Centre of India so that various E-commerce initiatives work as complimentary to each other.

Share of IT Business

568. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what share of IT business in the world today is captured by India;

(b) how much of the international IT market today is captured by Indians all over the world today;

(c) whether Government have any plan to promote Indians in information technology business abroad; and

(d) by when and what are the plans?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) 1 to 2% of International IT market has been captured by Indian companies as per NASSCOM — Mckinsey Report.

(b) A number of NRIs are in IT business the world over. The information about the share of Indians in international IT market is not readily available.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken a number of initiatives to encourage and promote Indian IT business abroad. The details in this regard are given in the Statement.

Statement

INCENTIVES TO IT SECTOR

To encourage and promote information technology business abroad, the Government of India has abolished licensing and simplified the procedures to make them transparent. The following major steps have been taken to promote export of IT Sector:

1. To provide legal framework so as to facilitate Electronic Commerce in the country, the Government has drafted Information Technology Act. The Act provides legal framework for amongst others recognition of electronic contracts, prevention of computer crimes, and electronic filing/documents. The mechanism of digital signature has been approved to address the issues of jurisdiction, authentication and origination.

2. Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at 5% duty.

3. Foreign direct Investments up to 100% allowed.

4. Software Technology Parks Scheme.

5. Special Stock Option Schemes for Indian Software Companies linked with ADR/GDR offering.

6. Working Capital Finance to Information Technology and Software industry.

7. Sweat Equity has been introduced in the Companies Act.

8. Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) access up to 50% of FOB value of exports for units under Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/

Export Processing Zone (EPZ)/Software Technology Parks (STP) Scheme.

9. Depreciation on Computer @ 60% per annum.

10. Reduction in Custom Duty on computer and peripherals to 15%. The customs duty on all storage devices, integrated circuits, microprocessors, data display tubes and deflection components of colour monitors is @ 0%.

11. Software exempted from custom duty and excise duty.

12. Relaxation in income tax to software units under EOU/EPZ/STP Schemes.

13. Exemption of withholding tax on interest on External Commercial Borrowings.

14. Computer systems have been made freely importable. The donation of used computers to educational institutes, hospitals etc. have been permitted duty free from units in EOU/EPZ/STP/Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP)

15. Exemption on income from dividends on Venture Capital Fund.

16. "Business Support Centre" has been opened in "Silicon Valley" California, USA to assist small & medium enterprises in establishing strategic alliance in the US.

Agenda for IT Governance

569. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed Information Technology Managers to set up a high level committee to prepare a transparent, efficient agenda for governance including methods to automate Government citizen interface;

(b) if so, the details of the directives given by Government in this regard and implications thereof;

(c) the details of follow-up action taken thereon; and

(d) what is the present status of the proposal?